



Moab Division of Fire Management

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BLM TO MAKE NEXT ATTACK ON TAMARISK

Grand County, Utah ... The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is continuing the fight in the war against tamarisk and Russian olive. Starting this week and continuing throughout the fall, winter and spring, many of the actions the BLM is undertaking will be highly visible along the Colorado river. Targeted areas include 27 treatment units on approximately 250 acres along State Highway 128 between Dewey and the river bridge, along State Road 279, from 191 to Potash and along the Kane Springs road system.

Primary goals of the treatments include:

- 1- Fuel breaks that will help impede a wildfire from moving up and down the Colorado River corridor.
- 2- Fuel breaks around well established native vegetation in efforts of restoring pre-tamarisk conditions in the river way.
- 3- Fuel breaks around campgrounds to better protect to the public, infrastructure and provide for firefighter safety.

Project work will include a mixture of hand-thinning, pile burning, and some mechanical treatments with heavy equipment. Hand thinning and mechanical treatments should be completed by the end of the year. Pile burning will be conducted as vegetation and weather conditions allow and likely should be implemented after the first of the year. Motorists should drive with caution during pile burning conditions due to potential smoke and fire impacts to adjacent road systems. Road signs and other notifications will inform the public when burn activities are planned. In addition, portions of the project area will be reseeded with native grasses and shrubs while other sections will benefit from native tree plantings.

Three different contractors (including one local contractor) have been hired to complete the majority of the work. BLM fire crews will be working in some of the campground treatment areas and will be conducting all of the prescribed fire activities.

The BLM is also working with the Southeastern Utah Tamarisk Partnership to identify additional treatment areas on private, county and School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA).

For more information regarding Utah fuel and fire mitigation projects, go to www.utahfireinfo.gov.

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